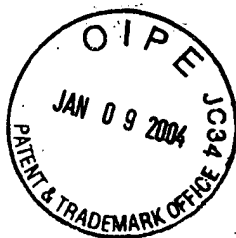


Image

**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Heidi L. Kraus
Edward W. Yee
Albert L. Ferro
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Molly A. McCall
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaton
Kimberly N. Reddick

Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes
Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Uhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
Jane Shershenovich
Lawrence J. Carroll
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller
LuAnne M. Yuricek
John J. Figueroa
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston

Aric W. Ledford*
Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Helene C. Carlson
Gaby L. Longworth
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Mary B. Tung
Katrina Y. Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Timothy A. Doyle
Jennifer R. Mahalingappa
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren

Victoria S. Rutherford
Eric D. Hayes

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

January 9, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:

(202) 772-8514

INTERNET ADDRESS:

LALCORN@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/862,710; Filed: May 23, 2001
For: **Thromboresistant Coating Composition**
Inventors: Shah *et al.*
Our Ref: P296 DIV1 (1737.0730002/LEA/M-R)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Linda E. Alcorn

Linda E. Alcorn
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 39,588

LEA/M-R:krd
Enclosures

SKGF_DC1:217152.1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Shah *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/862,710

Filed: May 23, 2001

For: **Thromboresistant Coating
Composition**

Confirmation No.: 1806

Art Unit: 1712

Examiner: Robertson, J.

Atty. Docket: P296 DIV1
(1737.0730002)

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 16, 2003, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 8), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;
- (B) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;
- (C) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:
 - in ascending order;
 - with status identifiers; and
 - with markings in the currently amended claims;
- (D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.